

a first controller electrically coupled between the electrodes of said first battery cell and the terminals of said first container to create a first container output voltage measured across said first container positive and negative terminals;

a second container electrically coupled to said first container, said second container having a positive terminal and a negative terminal, wherein said positive terminal of said second container is connected to said negative terminal of said first container;

C | a second battery cell having a second internal impedance disposed within said second container, said second battery cell having a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a battery cell voltage measured across said positive and said negative electrodes of the second battery cell;

a second controller electrically coupled between said electrodes of said second battery cell and said terminals of said second container to create a second container output voltage measured across said container positive and negative terminals; and

a circuit responsive to a predetermined condition of said multiple cell battery substantially determined by said first internal impedance and said second internal impedance, the circuit being electrically coupled to one of the first and second controllers to uncouple the respective one of the first and second container output voltages from the terminals of the respective one of the first and second containers upon detection of said predetermined condition.

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#### REMARKS

1. Claims 1-12, 14-22, and 24-29 are pending in this application. After a careful review of the patent application, previous office actions, previous replies, and the prior art of record, it is believed that the rejections are in error and the rejections, therefore, are traversed.

Applicant notes that reply dated August 10, 2001 contains an erroneous statement. On page five of the August 10<sup>th</sup> reply, Applicant states "[s]pecifically, Nagai measures impedance across FET 2. See col 6, lines 26-33 and FIG. 2." The cited passage in Nagai